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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/273, called upon the Secretary-General to include, in his report to the sixty-second session, solutions for placing the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) on a more stable basis without recourse to regular budget funding, in line with the statute of the Institute. In addition, in paragraph 2 of his report on the future operations of the Institute (A/62/173), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of his intention to submit a separate report on the financial situation of INSTRAW to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session. The present report addresses the two issues.

* The submission of the present report has been timed to reflect the latest available information for assessing the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

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I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly in its resolution 61/273 on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), called upon the Secretary-General to include, in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, solutions for placing the financial situation of the Institute on a more stable basis without recourse to regular budget funding, in line with the statute of the Institute. Moreover, in his report on the financial operations of the Institute (A/62/173, para. 2), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of his intention to submit a separate report on the financial situation of INSTRAW to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session. The present report is therefore in response to the request in part II, paragraph 7 of the resolution.

2. By its resolution 60/247, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $1,042,200 for the biennium 2006-2007, to be used for INSTRAW should there be a shortage of voluntary contributions for its functioning in 2006. In addition, the General Assembly in its decision 61/555 decided, on an exceptional basis, to authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount up to $190,000, subject to full reimbursement for the financing of INSTRAW in 2007 and in resolution 61/273, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to $367,800, subject to full reimbursement, pending receipt of voluntary contributions. Accordingly, the total resources in commitment authority authorized by the General Assembly amounts to $557,800, subject to full reimbursement, pending the receipt of voluntary contributions.

II. Financial situation of the Institute, 2006-2007

A. Trust fund for core activities

3. In the months following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 61/273 on 29 June 2007, the level of voluntary contributions received during the biennium 2006-2007 through 30 September 2007 for INSTRAW core activities was at $515,300. It is expected that an amount of $519,900 will be received before the end of 2007, representing voluntary contributions as well as a proportion of programme support costs generated from the INSTRAW Trust Fund for project activities which would provide relevant resources for the operations of the Institute. It will be recalled that programme support costs are generated from expenditure of trust funds and provide for backstopping for extrabudgetary operations without subsidization from assessed resources.

4. As can be seen in table 1, the total projected income for the biennium 2006-2007 of $3,491,900 is more than sufficient to cover the projected expenditures of $2,648,300, including the reserve of $200,000, for the biennium 2006-2007. With a projected balance as at 31 December 2007 of $643,600, INSTRAW will be able to reimburse in full the commitment authority totalling $557,800 authorized by the General Assembly for the biennium 2006-2007. The projected closing balance of $85,800, following the full reimbursement of the commitment authority, will be carried over into the financial year beginning 1 January 2008.

Table 1
Estimated financial situation of the Trust Fund for core activities for the period 2006-2007
(United States dollars)

Description	*Amount*
Opening balance	**564 200**
Income received (through 30 September 2007)	
Government contributions	515 300
Miscellaneous and other income[a]	1 683 500
Subtotal	**2 763 000**
Income projected to 31 December 2007	
Reimbursement for services rendered to MINUSTAH	209 000
Adjustment for share of backstopping programme support	272 500
Expected additional contributions in 2007	247 400
Subtotal	**728 900**
Total income (1)	**3 491 900**
Less: Expenditures	
For period 1 January-31 December 2006	(1 158 500)
For period 1 January-31 July 2007	(865 100)
Projected for 1 August-31 December 2007	(525 300)
Subtotal	**(2 548 900)**
Less: Programme support	
For period 1 January 2006-31 December 2006	(46 400)
For period 1 January 2007-31 July 2007	(24 400)
Estimated for period 1 August-31 December 2007	(29 000)
Subtotal	**(99 400)**
Total expenditures (2)	**(2 648 300)**
Less: Reserve to cover eventual final INSTRAW expenditures	(200 000)
Projected balance at 31 December 2007 (1)-(2) (rounded)	**643 600**
Less: Reimbursement of commitment authority by General Assembly decision 61/555 and resolution 61/273	(557 800)
Projected closing balance (rounded)	**85 800**

[a] Includes $1,042,200, representing the subvention for 2006 and $557,800 commitment authority for 2007.

5. Table 2 details the expenditures incurred by the Institute for the period 1 January-31 December 2006, amounting to $1,204,900 under its core activities, including the cost of the current nine staff of the Institute (1 D-2, 1 P-3, 2 P-2/1 and 5 General Service). During the period 1 January to 31 July 2007, the Institute incurred further expenditures of $889,100 (rounded) and has projected that for the period 1 August to 31 December 2007, the expenditures would amount to $554,300. The projected total expenditure for 2007 of $1,443,400 is based on the revised estimated requirements of the Institute for the year 2007 as reported to the Fifth Committee in June 2007 during its review of the Secretary-General's report (A/61/897). Accordingly, the total projected expenditures for the biennium 2006-2007 will amount to $2,648,300, excluding, in accordance with established procedures, the $200,000 reserve to cover eventual final expenditures and commitments of INSTRAW.

Table 2
Expenditures of the Trust Fund for core activities for the period 2006-2007
(United States dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2006 expenditures	*1 January-31 December 2007 projected expenditures*	*Total 2006-2007*
	(a)	*(b)*	*(a) + (b)*
Staff and other personnel costs	643 900	853 000	1 496 900
Consultants and experts	213 200	195 000	408 200
Travel	100 100	102 600	202 700
Contractual services	103 300	108 100	211 400
Operating expenses	54 300	81 800	136 100
Acquisitions	43 700	42 400	86 100
Fellowships, grants, others	—	7 500	7 500
Subtotal	**1 158 500**	**1 390 400**	**2 548 900**
Programme support	46 400	53 000	99 400
Total	**1 204 900**	**1 443 400**	**2 648 300**

B. INSTRAW Trust Fund for project activities

6. Voluntary contributions to the INSTRAW Trust Fund for project activities had a more positive experience with contributions more forthcoming. As reflected in the report of the Secretary-General (A/61/897), the positive situation continues to prevail. The projected closing balance of the Trust Fund, as at 31 December 2007, is estimated at $625,800, as detailed in table 3. The projected closing balance of $625,800 will be carried forward into the financial year beginning 1 January 2008.

Table 3
Estimated financial situation of the Trust Fund for project activities for the period 2006-2007 (As at 30 September 2007)
(United States dollars)

	Project activities
Opening balance	679 900
Income received (through 30 September 2007)	
Government contributions	886 900
Miscellaneous and other income	568 600
Subtotal	**1 475 500**
Total income	**2 135 400**
Less: Expenditures (1 January-31 December 2006)	(323 100)
Less: Expenditures (1 January-31 July 2007)	(505 600)
Less: Programme support costs (1 January 2006-31 July 2007)	(93 800)
Estimated balance available for August through December 2007 expenditures	**1 212 900**
Less: Projected cost of operations (1 August-31 December 2007)	(507 200)
Less: Estimated programme support	(79 900)
Projected closing balance (rounded)	**625 800**

III. Financial situation of the Institute for 2008

A. Trust Fund for core activities

7. At its third resumed fourth session the Executive Board of INSTRAW approved the revised workplan and operational budget for 2008 estimated at $1,541,000 (rounded), as outlined in table 4 below. The projected level of expenditures for its core activities in 2008 represent an increase of $98,000 over the 2007 estimated expenditures owing largely to anticipated increases in staff costs and operating expenses. The projected financial situation of the INSTRAW Trust Fund for core activities at the start of 2008 is estimated at $85,800 as outlined in table 1 above.

8. INSTRAW has informed its Executive Board that it projects that an estimated $1,485,500 (rounded) will be generated to finance its core activities in 2008, as reflected in annex I (Proposal 2) to its report (INSTRAW/EB/2007/R.7/Rev.1). The projection is based on past funding patterns, verbal expressions of contributions by donors, projected contributions from new sources, such as the private sector, and miscellaneous income, i.e., reimbursement from the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti for administrative support services rendered and the share of the earnings from programme support cost. Although the income projections of INSTRAW are optimistic, INSTRAW and its Executive Board have been made aware of the need to closely monitor the receipt of these projected contributions

owing to its unpredictability and in particular the need for timeliness of payment. In this connection, the Executive Board approved its medium-term resource mobilization strategy for 2008-2009 with the aim of securing the needed funds for implementation of the core activities of the Institute. The estimates are also based on the projection that INSTRAW will implement project activities estimated at $3,369,100 in 2008, against which its share of programme support for backstopping such activities would amount to $218,992.

9. The Executive Board, at its third resumed fourth session, fully cognizant that the projected level of contributions of $1,485,500 (rounded) is slightly less than the Institute's operational budget of $1,541,000 (rounded) and that voluntary contributions are unpredictable, approved the operational budget subject to the level of contributions received.

10. Based on a straight line projection, it is estimated that INSTRAW will require an estimated $128,000 per month to meet its expenditures of $1,541,000 estimated for 2008 as reflected in table 4. It is estimated that sufficient resources will be available to meet INSTRAW expenditures for the first quarter of 2008 based on an estimated beginning balance of $85,800 and assured contributions of $423,000 in its Trust Fund for core activities as at 1 January 2008. The Institute has been urged to increase its efforts in fund-raising and to ensure that pledges are paid in a timely manner to ensure that sufficient funds will be available for the continued operation of the Institute during 2008.

Table 4
2008 budget for the Trust Fund for core activities
(United States dollars)

	1 January-31 December 2008
Description	*Amount*
Staff and other personnel costs	890 700
Consultants and experts	192 500
Travel	105 500
Contractual services	120 000
Operating expenses	130 000
Acquisitions	43 000
Total	**1 481 700**
Programme support costs	59 300
Total	**1 541 000**

B. Trust Fund for project activities

11. The projected balance in the fund as at 31 December 2007 would amount to $625,800 as reflected in table 3 above. Based on projects planned for the period 2008-2011, as detailed in annex II to the present report, the Institute estimates that approximately $3.4 million would be available in 2008 for project activities.

IV. Securing sustained resources: resource mobilization plan 2008

12. The Executive Board, at its second resumed fourth session held on 4 and 5 September 2007, seeking to secure sustained resources to fund the Institute's core activities, approved the medium-term resource mobilization strategy 2008-2009 (see INSTRAW/EB/2007/R.11/Rev.1). The strategy seeks to secure the funds required for implementing the Institute's annual core budget according to the following percentages: 75 per cent from Member States and 25 per cent from the private sector. In this regard, the strategy includes a number of actions aimed at securing voluntary contributions from Member States and the private sector. The strategy also includes actions aimed at developing strategic partnerships for cost-effective practices and institutional development for capacity-building. It is expected that the results will place the financial situation of the Institute on a more stable footing.

13. Recent actions undertaken by INSTRAW aimed at increasing contributions from Member States include a communication to Member States from the President of the Executive Board to apprise them of the achievements and challenges of INSTRAW and encouraging them to consider making voluntary contributions to the core budget; special fund-raising efforts undertaken to secure contributions for the core budget; and action by the Executive Board of INSTRAW at its third resumed fourth session by which it has requested various actions by the Secretary-General to assist with the financing of the Institute for 2008 and beyond. In response to the request of the General Assembly to offer solutions for placing the financial situation of the Institute on a more stable basis without recourse to the regular budget funding, in line with the statute of the Institute, the Executive Board has decided that:

(a) The Member States be called upon to provide an associate expert for coordinating and implementing activities in Africa;

(b) The Secretary-General be requested to send communications to Member States encouraging them to make voluntary contributions to INSTRAW in line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/37;

(c) The Secretary-General be requested to support INSTRAW through convening meetings with a small group of important donors and requesting their support to INSTRAW.

14. Another channel for fund-raising for the Institute being pursued, to facilitate fund-raising for its core budget directly from the private sector and individual contributors, is the agreement between INSTRAW, the United Nations Foundation and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, recently opened to the public in the United Nations Foundation website. This agreement includes a special donation page for INSTRAW on the United Nations Foundation website. Within the

first month of operation of this vehicle, an anonymous donation of $100,000 was received. It is anticipated that similar contributions would be received through this mechanism. In addition, the Director has undertaken meetings with representatives of private sector entities in order to apprise them of the opportunity to support INSTRAW activities and of the achievements and challenges of INSTRAW and to encourage them to consider making voluntary contributions to its core activities.

15. Through collaboration with United Nations entities and other partners, including civil society organizations, INSTRAW strives to build strategic partnerships for cost-effective practices. In the past, the Institute has received in-kind contributions, which have assisted in reducing the Institute's costs for core activities. These strategic partnerships with United Nations and other entities also contribute to increasing coordination and collaboration while strengthening the implementation of its programme of work. It is foreseen that in-kind contributions to INSTRAW will continue at the same rate in the future.

V. Action required of the General Assembly

16. The General Assembly may wish therefore: (a) to take note of the present report of the Secretary-General; and (b) to reiterate the appeal in its resolution 61/273 to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Institute and to honour existing pledges in a timely manner.

Annex I

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women Trust Fund for core activities: projected income and sources of funds for 2008

Projected income for 2008	
Donors	
Pending pledge from Turkey for 2007	300 000
Various Member States	500 000
Subtotal	**800 000**
MINUSTAH (Direct Relief International) annual income	166 500
Private sector through United Nations Foundation	300 000
Estimated share of programme support generated	218 992
Subtotal	**685 492**
Total	**1 485 492**

Annex II

INSTRAW Trust Fund for project activities

Forecasting projects funding for INSTRAW, 2008-2011

		2008	*2009-2011*	*Total — 2008-2011*
Type of project	**Partners/donors**	**United States dollars**	**United States dollars**	**United States dollars**
Governance gender and political participation of women at local level in Latin America	Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (AECI), Spain	504 970		504 970
Remittances and rural development: the case of Filipino women in Italy	International Fund for Agricultural Development	63 200		63 200
Harnessing the potential of remittances in local development	UNDP/Japan Women in Development Fund	240 000		240 000
Indigenous women and ICT	Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues/Division for Social Policy and Development/ Department of Economic and Social Affairs		26 000	26 000
Political participation of women in the Maghreb	Spain/AECI	840 000		840 000
Security sector reform in Haiti	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	54 829		54 829
The application of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)	Anonymous	100 000		100 000
Participation of Somali women's organizations in the peace process	Italian cooperation	183 196		183 196
Subtotal Funded projects		**1 986 195**	**26 000**	**2 012 195**
Advanced negotiations	**Partners/donors**			
Global Care Chains and their impacts	Spain/AECI	315 000	315 000	630 000
Political participation of women in Latin America (Part II)	Spain/AECI		1 950 000	1 950 000
Dialogue women's organizations from the South: Africa and Latin America	Italian cooperation/AECI/Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues		409 000	409 000

		2008	2009-2011	Total 2008-2011
Gender peace and security in Somalia	Various Governments	190 000		190 000
Institutional development	Mexico	50 000	50 000	100 000
Institutional gender mainstreaming	Secretaría General Iberoamericana	42 000	84 000	126 000
Gender and remittances: capacity-building for women in the Dominican Republic	Inter-American Development Bank	150 000		150 000
Harnessing the potential of remittances for rural development	IFAD	624 000	624 000	1 248 000
Training on gender peace and security	UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery	11 145		11 145
Capacity-building on gender security sector reform	Various Governments		1 355 000	1 355 000
Creation of national action plans on women, peace and security	Various Governments		497 385	497 385
Subtotal		**1 382 145**	**5 284 385**	**6 666 530**
Total		**3 368 340**	**5 310 385**	**8 678 725**